No. 2. Substitution of "Depressed Classes by Scheduled Castes"

Mrs. Dakshayani Velayudhan *(Nominated)*: I move the following resolution standing in my name.—

"This Council reccommends to the Government that the name "Depressed Classes" may be eliminated and in its place the term "Scheduled Castes" be inserted,"

There are two reasons which prompted me to move this resolution. The first thing is that the words "Depressed Classes" sound an inferiority complex. It shows inequality and inferiority. Over and above that. the objection of using the words "Depressed Classes" is that it has got a bad psychological effect. That is the most important thing which prompted me to, change the name. The "Depressed Classes" when they are often called that they are depressed. they always think that they are depressed and they always think that they will be always depres sed. It is to avoid this psychological effect that I recommend to change this name.

The second factor is that in British India the term "Scheduled Castes" is used to denote certain particular communities which the Government have placed together for the convenience of giving them educational and other concessions. Our Sister State of Travancore also does not use the name "depressed"; but the use the word 'backward'. That term "backward" also, I do not want.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam)*: Why not "Harijan"?

Mrs. Dakshayani Velayudhan *(Nominated)*: With all my respect to the authors of the name, the name "Harijan" is felt like calling a dog, "Napolean", or "Hitler", so long as untouchability remains. You know how far that name is correct. We do not want any other name. All over India the term "depressed classes" is not used but instead of that they use "Scheduled Castes". For the sake of uniformity and as I said before to avoid that deterimental psychological effect I recommend to this House to eliminate the term "Depressed Classes" and to insert in its place "Scheduled Castes". With these words I commend this resolution for the acceptance of the House.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. കൊച്ചുകുട്ടൻ: സർ, ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാൻ പിന്താങ്ങുന്നു.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. കെ. കണ്ണൻ. സർ, ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാനും അനുമോദിക്കുന്നു.

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development)*: This seems to be an innocent resolution. But however there seems to be a slight difficulty. The "Scheduled Castes" in British India is introduced under the Government of India Act. But in our Government of Cochin Act there is no such Schedule.

Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur)*: We have got a Schedule of depressed classes in the Education Code.

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Rural Development)*: But that is a different thing. Any way from the file I find that formerly the word used was "backward communities". It was subseqently changed into "Depressed Classes". The mover does not like that expression. In Travancore it is also stated that the word "backward communities" is still used. The mover does not want that also. In order to have a uniformity there is no harm in using the word "Scheduled Castes". I think Government will consider that and see whether it could be introduced.

Mrs. Dakshayani Velayudhan *(Nominated)*: As the Government has stated that the Government would favourably consider the question, I do not press this resolution.

Resolution, by leave, withdrawn

ADJOURNMENT MOTION

Refusal of application to conduct public meeting

Mr. President: I think perhaps it would help the House in discussing this motion, if I say a word or two about the position of Government at this stage. Has the Hon'ble Mover any objection to my doing so?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam)*: No objection, Sir.

Mr. President: I see in the notice of this motion that reference is made to an order passed by the Division Inspector of Police, Ernakulam. Now I wish to make it quite clear at the out set that in passing this order the Inspector of Police was not acting irresponsibly or without authority. He was carrying out the policy of the Government duly communicated to him through the Commissioner of Police and therefore I hope that any criticism against the order will be directed against the Government which laid down the policy and not against their unfortunate agent who passed the order,

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